C.S.F. 149

VOTES

OF THE HONOURABLE

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

OF

JAMAICA,

IN A SESSION

Begun JULY 25, *and ended* AUGUST 4, 1797.

Being the Second Seſſion *of the preſent Aſſembly.*

ST. JAGO DE LA VEGA:
PRINTED BY ALEXANDER AIKMAN,
PRINTER TO THE HONOURABLE THE ASSEMBLY.

M.DCC.XCVIII.

VOTES

VOTES

OF THE

ASSEMBLY OF JAMAICA.

Martis, 25° die Julii, 1797.

THE members of the aſſembly being met, according to proclamation, and being made acquainted with the death of the honourable William Blake, eſquire, their late ſpeaker;

Mr. Taylor and Mr. Redwood were deſired to wait on his honour the lieutenant-governor, and acquaint him therewith; and to deſire his honour would be pleaſed to give leave to proceed to the choice of a ſpeaker; who returning, reported that his honour was pleaſed to give leave accordingly:

Whereupon the members unanimouſly choſe Donald Campbell, eſquire, their ſpeaker; who being conducted to the chair;

Mr. Cuthbert and Mr. Mowat were deſired to wait on his honour the lieutenant-governor, and acquaint him, that the houſe had made choice of a ſpeaker, and deſire to know when they ſhould attend his honour, to preſent him; who returning, reported his honour was pleaſed to ſay, immediately:

Whereupon the houſe attended his honour, and preſented their ſpeaker; who being approved of, and being returned;

Mr. Speaker acquainted the houſe, that, in purſuance of the directions of an act for

that

that purpoſe, paſſed in the year 1793, a new writ had been iſſued, during the receſs, for the election of a member to ſerve in this aſſembly, for the pariſh of St. Catherine, in the room of Samuel Whitehorne, eſquire, deceaſed; that one other writ had been iſſued, for the election of a member to ſerve in this aſſembly, for the pariſh of Port-Royal, in the room of Matthew Wallen, eſquire, deceaſed; and that one other writ had been iſſued, for the election of a member to ſerve in this aſſembly, for the pariſh of Weſtmorland, in the room of the honourable William Blake, eſquire, deceaſed.

Ordered, That the rules agreed to by the houſe on the firſt day of the laſt ſeſſion, be the ſtanding rules of the houſe, during the preſent ſeſſion.

A meſſage from his honour the lieutenant-governor, in council, by the clerk of the council, who brought down a *dedimus* to the ſpeaker, empowering him to adminiſter the uſual oaths, to ſuch members of the preſent aſſembly, as have not been already ſworn, and to hear and ſee them repeat and ſubſcribe the teſt.

A meſſage from his honour the lieutenant-governor, in council, by the clerk of the council, who brought down the writs of election for the pariſhes of St Catherine, Port-Royal, and Weſtmorland; which, with the provoſt-marſhal's returns thereto, being ſeverally read, it appeared that Edmund Puſey Lyon, eſquire, was returned a repreſentative for the ſaid pariſh of St. Catherine, in the room of Samuel Whitehorne, eſquire, deceaſed; that Samuel Whitehorne Barnett, eſquire, was returned a repreſentative for the ſaid pariſh of Port-Royal, in the room of Matthew Wallen, eſquire, deceaſed; and that William Ricketts Johnſon, eſquire, was returned a repreſentative for the ſaid pariſh of Weſtmorland, in the room of the honourable William Blake, eſquire, deceaſed:

And the ſaid Samuel Whitehorne Barnett, eſquire, and Alexander Macleod, eſquire, attending, ſeverally took the uſual oaths, and their ſeats, accordingly.

Mr. Speaker reported, that the houſe had attended his honour the lieutenant-governor, in the council-chamber, and that his honour was pleaſed to make a ſpeech; of which Mr. Speaker ſaid, he had, to prevent miſtakes, obtained a copy; and the ſame being read, was ordered to be entered, and is as follows:

"GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL,

"MR. SPEAKER, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE ASSEMBLY,

"I lament my being obliged to call you together, at a ſeaſon of the year which I am afraid may be attended with ſome inconvenience to your private concerns.

"The ſituation of public affairs, and the novel circumſtances which ariſe in the progreſs of the war, claim an unremitting degree of vigilance and attention to the ſtate of the iſland.

"When we reflect on the ſuperiority of his majeſty's fleets, rendered doubly powerful by recent and ſplendid victories, and contemplate the natural defenſible ſtate of Jamaica, and the loyalty of its inhabitants, an invaſion by the enemy, in great force, and with views of conqueſt, cannot be reaſonably apprehended: But my ſolicitude for your ſafety, has made me examine, with ſome anxiety, a danger of a leſſer magnitude, to which it ſeems expoſed, and which has appeared to me of ſufficient importance to merit your ſerious conſideration: I ſhall lay before you ſuch papers and information, as may beſt explain

plain its nature; being, upon all occaſions, deſirous of availing myſelf of your advice, and of acting under the guidance of your judgment.

" MR. SPEAKER, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE ASSEMBLY,

" I truſt that you will provide for the exigencies of government, with your accuſtomed liberality.

" GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL,

" MR. SPEAKER, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE ASSEMBLY,

" I ſhall communicate to you ſome military arrangements, which his majeſty has been pleaſed to make, for the defence of his colonies in the Weſt-Indies, and of Jamaica in particular.

" I am thoroughly perſuaded, that this, as well as every other matter which may come before you, will receive that temperate and ſober diſcuſſion, which has ever dignified your proceedings."

A motion being made, that a committee be appointed, to prepare an humble addreſs to his honour the lieutenant-governor, for his ſpeech at the opening of the ſeſſion;

Ordered, That Mr. Chief-Juſtice, Mr. Cuthbert, Mr. Redwood, Mr. Shirley, and Mr. Thompſon, be a committee for that purpoſe:

Ordered, That his honour's ſpeech be referred to the ſaid committee.

Mr. Speaker laid before the houſe a letter from Mr. Swaby, mentioning, that his private concerns required his abſence from this country for ſome time, and requeſting leave of abſence for twelve months:

Ordered, That he have leave of abſence for twelve months accordingly.

Mr. Speaker laid before the houſe a letter from Mr. Murray, mentioning, that buſineſs of a particular nature would prevent his attending the houſe during the preſent ſeſſion, and requeſting leave of abſence:

Ordered, That Mr. Murray have leave of abſence during the preſent ſeſſion.

Mr. Speaker laid before the houſe a letter from Mr. Hering, mentioning, that buſineſs of a particular nature would detain him in the pariſh of Weſtmorland, at the commencement of the preſent ſeſſion, and requeſting leave of abſence:

Ordered, That Mr. Hering have leave of abſence for one week.

A member, in his place, having informed the houſe of the death of James Wedderburn, eſquire, one of the repreſentatives for the pariſh of Weſtmorland:

And a motion being made, that a meſſage be ſent to his honour the lieutenant-governor, acquainting him therewith, that a new writ might iſſue;

Ordered, That the following meſſage be ſent to his honour the lieutenant-governor:

" MAY

" MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

" We are ordered by the houſe to wait on your honour, and to requeſt you will be pleaſed to give directions for iſſuing a writ, to chooſe a repreſentative for the pariſh of Weſtmorland, in the room of James Wedderburn, eſquire, deceaſed."

Ordered, That Mr. Irving and Mr. Shaw be a committee to wait on his honour with the above meſſage; who returning, reported the delivery thereof, and that his honour was pleaſed to ſay, he would give directions accordingly.

Ordered, That all ſtanding committees of the late ſeſſion be revived.

Ordered, That the ſecretary of this iſland do forthwith ſend unto the houſe, the ſeveral original laws of this iſland, now in his cuſtody.

Ordered, That the clerk appointed by the commiſſioners of correſpondence do forthwith ſend unto the houſe, all books, papers, and writings, now in his cuſtody, belonging to the ſaid commiſſioners.

Reſolved, That this houſe will, to-morrow, reſolve itſelf into a committee of the whole houſe, to take into conſideration his honour the lieutenant-governor's ſpeech at the opening of the ſeſſion.

Reſolved, That this houſe will, to-morrow, reſolve itſelf into a committee of the whole houſe, to enquire into and take into conſideration the ſtate of the iſland.

Reſolved, That Mr. Speaker do authorize any perſon to print the votes of this ſeſſion, and that no other perſon do preſume to print the ſame.

Then the houſe adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

☞ By virtue of an order of the houſe, I do appoint Alexander Aikman to print theſe Votes, and that no other perſon do preſume to print the ſame.

DON. CAMPBELL, *Speaker.*

Mercurii, 26° die Julii, 1797.

EDMUND Puſey Lyon and William Ricketts Johnſon, eſquires, attending, ſeverally took the uſual oaths, and their ſeats accordingly.

Mr. Chief-Juſtice, from the committee appointed to prepare an humble addreſs to his honour the lieutenant-governor, in anſwer to his ſpeech at the opening of this ſeſſion, reported the ſame; which he read in his place, and delivered in at the table; where being again read;

Reſolved,

Reſolved, That the ſaid addreſs be committed to a committee of the whole houſe, immediately:

Then the houſe reſolved itſelf into ſuch committee:

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Chief-Juſtice took the chair of the committee.

Mr. Speaker reſumed the chair.

Mr Chief-Juſtice. from the committee, reported, that they had gone through the addreſs, and had made one amendment thereto; which he read in his place, and delivered in at the table; where being again read;

And a motion being made, that the report be amended, by inſerting the words, "though almoſt wholly neglected by the adminiſtration at home;"

A debate thereon ariſing; and the queſtion being put;

It paſſed in the negative:

Reſolved, That the houſe do agree to the report:

Ordered, That the ſaid addreſs, with the amendment, be engroſſed.

Mr. Speaker laid before the houſe a letter from Mr. Foulks, mentioning, that the ill health of himſelf and family rendered a change of climate abſolutely requiſite; and requeſting that the houſe would vacate his ſeat.

Ordered, That the ſeat of the ſaid Mr. Foulks be vacated, agreeably to his requeſt.

Ordered, That the following meſſage be ſent to his honour the lieutenant-governor:

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

"We are ordered by the houſe to wait on your honour, and to requeſt that you will be pleaſed to give directions for iſſuing a writ, to chooſe a repreſentative for the pariſh of Clarendon, in the room of Theodore Foulks, eſquire, whoſe ſeat the houſe have vacated."

Ordered, That Mr. Henckell and Mr. Deans be a committee to wait on his honour with the above meſſage; who returning, reported the delivery thereof, and that his honour was pleaſed to ſay, he would give directions accordingly.

Three meſſages from his honour the lieutenant governor, by his ſecretary, as follows:

Firſt meſſage.

"MR SPEAKER,

"I am commanded by his honour the lieutenant-governor, to lay before the houſe a copy of a letter, which he has received from the duke of Portland, dated January, 1797, and alſo a copy of its incloſure.

" I am directed to ſay, that his honour requeſts the houſe will pay the earlieſt attention to the contents of his grace's letter; and truſts, that the reaſons aſſigned therein, will prove ſo convinci g and ſatisfactory, as to induce a concurrence in the meaſure, and the neceſſary pecuniary aid in conſequence.

' MY LORD, *Whitehall. January*, 1797.

' By the letter of which I ſend your lordſhip a copy incloſed, you will receive the king's commands to take the neceſſary ſteps for raiſing, in the iſland of Jamaica, a regiment of colour, which it is his majeſty's pleaſure ſhould conſiſt of eight compa ies.

' A reference to ſuch of my former diſpatches, as tend to explain and enforce the importance, which his majeſty's confidential ſervants at ach to the formation of a regular negro force in the Weſt-Indies, will render it unneceſſary for me to call your lordſhip's attention to ſuch means, as may be moſt conducive to raiſe ſuch a regiment, with the leaſt poſſible delay, and the ſtricteſt œconomy: His majeſty has been pleaſed to give the command of it to brigadier-general Whitelock, who is to be at liberty to enlift free negroes, or people of colour, provided they can be procured for the bounties uſually allowed for recruiting in this country, and on this expreſs condition, that they belong to the Britiſh iſlands.

' As, however, it is thought that it will be extremely difficult to com lete this regiment, unleſs permiſſion is given to purchaſe, on the account of government, a portion of thoſe men of whom it is to conſiſt, your lor ſhip is hereby empowered to reſort to that mode of procuring them, in caſe it ſhould be neceſſary; and you are alſo authorized, in that caſe, to draw bills on the lords commiſſioners of his majeſty's treaſury, for the payment of the ſums you may be obliged to diſburſe on that account.

' When it comes to be conſidered, that the propoſers of this meaſure can have no other object in view, than the eſtabliſhment of a force which ſhall be ſuitable to the climate, and ſufficient for the defence and ſecurity of the iſland; that experience has ſhewn the difficulty and uncertainty of keeping up ſuch a force by recruits from Europe; and that it is impoſſible to augment it, in caſes of emergency, ſo as to enable it to act with promptitude and effect; and when we are to recollect beſides, that we have to oppoſe the principles and doctrines introduced into the colonies by the French Republicans, a new, and certainly more formidable enemy, than any we have ever yet had to encounter, I ſhould hope and believe, that your lordſhip would be able, not only to reconcile the legiſlature of Jamaica to this meaſure; but to induce them to bear a conſiderable ſhare of the expence of it; and I am the more inclined to indulge this expectation, from the influence to which I think your lordſhip's conduct ſhould entitle you with both the branches of the legiſlature, and from the gratitude they ought to feel for the exertions, this country is always ready to make in their behalf. I am, MY LORD, your lordſhip's moſt obedient humble ſervant,

' *Earl of Balcarres.* ' PORTLAND.'

' MY LORD, *Horſe-Guards, 9th January*, 1797.

' As your lordſhip will be inſtructed by the duke of Portland, in regard to the meaſures to be purſued, in raiſing the regiment of colour that is to be formed in the iſland of Jamaica, under the command of brigadier-general Whitelock, I have to communicate to your lordſhip, by field-marſhal the duke of York's commands, the eſtabliſhment, at which it is his majeſty's pleaſure that the corps ſhould be fixed, and which is as hereafter mentioned.

' His royal highneſs thinking it probable, that a great proportion of the negroes to compoſe this corps will be to be purchaſed by government, and that the ſame expedient will be obliged to be had recourſe to, to provide the corps of the ſame deſcription with men, that are to be formed in the leeward iſlands, has thought it neceſſary to direct lieutenant-general ſir Ralph Abercrombie, to communicate to your lordſhip the meaſures, he may find it expe-

dient

dient to adopt upon the occaſion, in order that the ſame plan may be followed by your lordſhip, as far as local circumſtances will admit.

'His royal highneſs further commands me to obſerve, that he is perſuaded, that your lordſhip will ſee the neceſſity of uſing every exertion poſſible, in perfecting the intention of eſtabliſhing this corps; an object his royal highneſs conſiders as materially eſſential to his majeſty's ſervice.

'I have the honour to be, MY LORD, your lordſhip's moſt obedient humble ſervant,

'ROBERT BROWNRIGG.

'*Major general earl of Balcarres, &c. &c. &c.*

'*Eſtabliſhment of brigadier-general Whitelock's regiment, to conſiſt of eight companies of ſixty rank and file.*

1 colonel, without a company	1 ſurgeon
1 lieutenant-colonel, ditto	2 mates
1 major, ditto	1 ſerjeant-major
8 captains	1 quartermaſter ſerjeant
16 lieutenants	24 ſerjeants
8 enſigns	24 corporals
1 chaplain	16 drummers
1 adjutant	456 private men."
1 quartermaſter	

Second meſſage.

"MR. SPEAKER,

"I am commanded by his honour the lieutenant-governor, to lay before the houſe an extract of a letter from lieutenant-general Simcoe, dated Port-au-Prince, 1ſt June, 1797; and alſo a copy of a letter ſigned by Sonthonax, as referred to by the letter of the lieutenant-general."

'*Extract of a letter from general Simcoe, to the earl of Balcarres, dated Port-au-Prince, 1ſt June, 1797.*

'I incloſe to your lordſhip, the copy of a letter, indubitably ſigned by Sonthonax, and dropped in the plain of the Cul de Sac, at nearly that period, when the troops of Leogane and Touſſaint threatened to inveſt this place.

'As a military man, I cannot take upon me to ſay, that any part of this iſland would now be in poſſeſſion of the king's forces, had not your lordſhip ſent the reinforcement under colonel Spencer."

'LIBERTE GENERALE.—REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE.

'*Au cap, le 15ne Germinal, l'an cinquiéme de la republique Francaiſe, une et indiviſible.*

'*Léger Felicité Sonthonax, repreſentant de peuple, et commiſſaire dédégué par le gouvernement Français aux iſles de Vent,*

'*Au general de brigade Beauvais, commandant l'arrondiſſement de Leogane.*

'Le general Touſſaint L'Ouverture m'apprend, cher général, que vous avez eu quelques ſuccés dans votre expedition ſur les poſtes exterieurs du Port-au-Prince, et que ſans la ſaiſon pluvieuſe qui vous a contrarié, vous auriéz obtenu des avantages plus importans: D'apres les temoignages qui me ſont donnés de votre zéle, je ne puis qu'être tres ſatisfait de ſes effets.

'Ce n'eſt pas tout, d'inquiéter les Anglais dans les points de la colonie que des traîtres leur ont livrés; il faut porter le theâtre de la guerre chez eux-mêmes; c'eſt à la Jamaïque que nous devons leur porter les plus grands coups.

'Je ſuis maintenant occupé de réaliſer un projèt, que je crois aſſez mûr pour être aſſuré de l'execution: Voici quel eſt mon projèt:

Je

' Je fais raſſembler dans les ports des Gonaives, Port de Paix, et Fort Liberté, 50 corſaires depuis ſix canons juſqu'à un pierrier, tres bien armés en fuſils, piſtolets, et ſabres, et parfaitement bien equippés; le raſſemblement général ſe fera ſur un point donné, que je ne puis encore vous dire.

' Cette flotte flibuſtiére mettra, ſur la côte du Port-Antonio et du Port-Morant, les hommes intrépides qu'elle porte. ' Liberté ſera le mot de ralliement; avec ce taliſman, et précédés de leur artillerie légére, ces hommes inſurgeront tous les noirs qu'ils trouveront ſur leur paſſage; ſe joindront à ceux des montagnes bleuës. et avec la rapidité d'un torrent groſſi par la fonte des neiges. ils renverſeront tout ce qui leur fera reſiſtance, et ils viendront planter l'arbre de la liberté à Kingſton.

' Le chef de cette entrepriſe eſt un officier, qui a combattu les Anglais dans l'Inde. et dans la Guerre des Etats-unis; il leur porte une haine profonde; il connait parfaitement les côtes de la Jamaïque, et l'intérieur des terres. Secrettement avoué par moi, il y a été pluſieurs fois dans divers deguiſemens, et s'eſt ménagé des intelligences avec des habitans; tiennent à ſes ordres des eclaireurs, et des guides pour diriger la marche de nos flibuſtiers: Voila quels ſont mes projèts; j'ai dû vous les communiquer, parce que vous ſerez chargé d'une partie de l'execution, par le concours des moyens qui ſont à votre diſpoſition. Salut et Fraternité.

' SONTHONAX.'

' GENERAL LIBERTY—FRENCH REPUBLIC,

' *Cape, 15th Germinal, 5th year of the French republic, one and indiviſible.*

' *Leger Felicité Sonthonax, repreſentative of the French People, and commiſſioner delegated by the French government to the Leeuard Iſlands,*

' *To brigadier-general Beauvais, commanding the diſtrict of Leogane.*

' General Touſſaint L'Ouverture informs me, dear general, that you have had ſome ſucceſs in your expedition againſt the out-poſts of Port-au-Prince, and that, had you not been counteracted by the rainy ſeaſon, you would have obtained advantages ſtill more important.

' From the accounts I have received of your zeal, I cannot but be pleaſed with the effects it has produced.

' We ought not to be ſatisfied with diſturbing the Engliſh in the ſeveral ports of this colony, which have been delivered to them by traitors; we muſt remove the ſeat of war into their own boſom; and, in Jamaica, the greateſt efforts muſt be made againſt them.

' My mind is at preſent engaged in carrying into execution a plan ſufficiently ripe to enſure its ſucceſs.

' This is my plan:

' I am collecting in the ports of Gonaives, Port de Paix, and Fort Liberté, fifty privateers, from a ſwivel to ſix guns, well ſupplied with muſquetry, piſtols, and ſabres, and perfectly well manned: The general rendezvous will be at a place that I ſhall hereafter indicate to you: This buccaneering fleet will land, on the coaſt of Port-Antonio and Port-Morant, the intrepid heroes it will have on board: Liberty ſhall be the rallying word: With this taliſman, and preceded by their light artillery, theſe men will create an inſurrection among all the negroes they may find on their march; they will be joined by the maroons; and, with the rapidity of a torrent, ſwollen by the melting of ſnow, will overthrow all reſiſtance, and plant the tree of liberty in Kingſton.

' The officer, who will command this enterpriſe, has fought againſt the Engliſh in India and America; he bears them a moſt inveterate hatred; he is perfectly acquainted with the coaſt of Jamaica, and the interior of the country; he has been there ſeveral times, ſecretly authorized by me, and under different diſguiſes, and has opened communication with ſome of the inhabitants, who hold themſelves in readineſs to put under his orders ſcouts and guides, to direct the march of our free-booters.

' Such

' Such are my plans; it is my duty to communicate them to you, becauſe you are to execute a part of them, by employing therein the means at your diſpoſal.

' Health and fraternity.

' SONTHONAX."

Third meſſage.

" MR. SPEAKER,

" I am commanded by his honour the lieutenant governor, to lay before the houſe a return of the regular force in Jamaica, fit for duty, dated July 1ſt, 1797: And his honour directs me to ſay, that he has no reaſon to expect a reinforcement of troops, either from Great-Britain or St. Domingo.

' *Return of Britiſh rank and file in Jamaica, fit for duty, July* 1, 1797.

' 13th regiment of light dragoons	- - -	134
' 20th ditto ditto	- - - -	188
' 63d regiment of foot	- - -	214
' 83d ditto ditto	- - -	266—802
' Royal artillery	- - - -	152

' *Jamaica, July* 1, 1797.

A. GOULD, *acting major brigade.*

' *N. B.* 276 rank and file ſick, not included in the above return.

' A. G. A. M. B."

Ordered, That the above three meſſages, and the papers therewith ſent, be referred to the committee of the whole houſe, to enquire into and take into conſideration the ſtate of the iſland.

Then the houſe reſolved itſelf into ſuch committee:

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Taylor took the chair of the committee.

Mr. Speaker reſumed the chair.

Mr. Taylor, from the committee, reported one reſolution; which he read in his place, and delivered in at the table; where being again read, was agreed unto by the houſe, and is as follows:

That it be recommended to the houſe, to refer his honour the lieutenant-governor's firſt meſſage of this day, and the papers therewith ſent, to a ſpecial committee; and that they report their opinion thereon, to the houſe:

Ordered, That Mr. Shirley, Mr. Grant, Mr. Redwood, Mr. Lyon, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Irving, Mr. Cuthbert, and Mr. Fullerton, be a committee for that purpoſe:

Then Mr. Taylor acquainted the houſe, that the committee had directed him to move the houſe for leave to ſit again:

Reſolved, That his houſe will again, to-morrow, reſolve itſelf into a committee of the whole houſe, to enquire into and take further into conſideration the ſtate of the iſland.

Then the houſe adjourned till to morrow morning, nine of the clock.

☞ By virtue of an order of the houſe, I do appoint Alexander Aikman to print theſe Votes, and that no other perſon do preſume to print the ſame.

DON. CAMPBELL, *Speaker.*

Jovis, 27° die Julii, 1797.

THE engroſſed addreſs to his honour the lieutenant-governor was read, in the words following:

"JAMAICA, *ſſ.*

"*To the right honourable* ALEXANDER *earl of* BALCARRES, *lieutenant-governor and commander in chief of this his majeſty's iſland of Jamaica, and the territories thereon depending in America, chancellor and vice-admiral of the ſame,*

"THE HUMBLE ADDRESS OF THE ASSEMBLY,

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR.

"We, his majeſty's dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the aſſembly of the iſland of Jamaica, beg leave to return your honour our thanks, for your ſpeech at the opening of the ſeſſion.

"Notwithſtanding any inconvenience we may feel, at being called from our private concerns at this ſeaſon of the year, we readily attend to the higher duty of our ſtation, the public welfare.

"The circumſtances of the preſent war, equally new and extraordinary, claim, on our part, every degree of attention and vigilance.

"We truſt that the ſuperiority of his majeſty's fleets, ſo eminently diſtinguiſhed by ſplendid victories, will deter the enemy from attempting, in great force, any ſerious attack againſt an iſland naturally ſo ſtrong; and whoſe inhabitants, conſpicuous for their loyalty, are at all times ready to ſacrifice their lives and fortunes, in defence of their king and country.

"We return your lordſhip our warmeſt thanks, for having examined, with anxiety, dangers of a leſs magnitude, to which we may be expoſed; and we beg leave to aſſure your lordſhip, that we ſhall co-operate with you, in all ſuch meaſures, as may be thought neceſſary, for the further ſecurity and defence of the iſland.

"We ſhall provide for the exigencies of government, in the manner moſt ſuitable to the circumſtances of the country.

"We ſhall diſcuſs ſuch military arrangements, and other matters, as your lordſhip ſhall be pleaſed to lay before us, in the moſt diſpaſſionate manner, becoming our duty to our king, and the ſafety of his people in this iſland."

Reſolved, That the ſaid addreſs do paſs;

Ordered,

Ordered, That the following meſſage be ſent to his honour the lieutenant-governor:

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

"We are ordered by the houſe to wait on your honour, and to acquaint you, that having an humble addreſs to preſent, they deſire to know when you will pleaſe to be attended."

Ordered, That Mr. Chief-Juſtice and Mr. Cuthbert be a committee to wait on his honour with the above meſſage; who returning, reported the delivery thereof, and that his honour was pleaſed to ſay, this afternoon, at four of the clock.

Reſolved, That as the preſent ſeſſion of aſſembly has been convened on a particular emergency, when the accuſtomed proviſion for the ſupport of government during the current year had been made, this houſe will not receive any buſineſs of a private nature; and will confine its deliberations to the immediate objects for which it has been called, as ſtrictly as the intereſt and welfare of the iſland will admit.

Ordered, That the above reſolution be publiſhed in the Royal Gazette, the St. Jago Gazette, and the Cornwall Chronicle, for one week.

It being four of the clock, Mr. Speaker, with the whole houſe, went up to attend his honour the lieutenant-governor, to preſent their addreſs; and being returned;

Mr. Speaker reported, that the houſe had attended his honour the lieutenant-governor, and preſented their addreſs, to which his honour was pleaſed to return an anſwer; of which, Mr. Speaker ſaid, he had, to prevent miſtakes, obtained a copy; and the ſame being read, was ordered to be entered, and is as follows:

"MR. SPEAKER, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE ASSEMBLY,

"I thank you for this addreſs, and am happy to obſerve your ardent deſire to promote the proſperity of the empire, and of this iſland in particular."

Then the houſe adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

☞ By virtue of an order of the houſe, I do appoint Alexander Aikman to print their Votes, and that no other perſon do preſume to print the ſame.

DON. CAMPBELL, *Speaker.*

Veneris, 28° die Julii, 1797.

MR. Shirley, from the committee to whom his honour the lieutenant-governor's firſt meſſage of Wedneſday laſt, and the papers therewith ſent, were referred, reported,

That, however diſintereſted the propoſers of the meaſure mentioned in the duke of Portland's letter, dated laſt January, may be, it appears that they are not ſufficiently acquainted with the conſtitution, and internal policy, of this iſland, to judge by what legal means ſuch a meaſure can be carried into execution; and, if effected, how far it will contribute to the good of his majeſty's ſervice, and to the ſecurity of the iſland:

That

That the committee are of opinion, that the raiſing a corps, to be chiefly compoſed of purchaſed ſlaves, is contrary to the laws of this country, becauſe they prohibit any perſon from bearing arms who is not a free man; and they alſo declare, that it is felony, without benefit of clergy, to place arms and ammunition in the hands of ſlaves, except under certain circumſtances ſpecified in thoſe laws:

That the committee are further of opinion, that, ſhould ſlaves be embodied and armed, in the manner directed in the diſpatches accompanying his lordſhip's firſt meſſage, they could not legally exerciſe, in this iſland, many of the moſt important duties of a ſoldier:

That the committee beg leave to obſerve, that ſuppoſing it is part of the plan, in order to obviate theſe difficulties, to manumize ſuch ſlaves as may be purchaſed (which, however, is not ſet forth in any of the diſpatches), the following obſtacles will ſtill occur:

No manumiſſion can operate ſo as to defeat the rights of creditors, nor thoſe who have eſtates in reverſion, after the expiration of life intereſts; and the laws of this country provide, that no ſlave ſhall be manumized, until good and ſufficient ſecurity ſhall be firſt given to the churchwardens, for ſettling a pecuniary proviſion upon ſuch ſlave for life:

And, even were the obſtacles we have now ſtated removed, the operation of the Britiſh code of military laws militates directly againſt the laws of this iſland, which relate to the ſituation of free people of colour; and this objection can only be removed by an act of our legiſlature; and the committee cannot help obſerving, that the inſtitution even of this meaſure, without ſuch ſanction, is improper:

That the committee, having ſhewn that this meaſure is contrary to the conſtitution of this iſland, now proceed to ſtate that it is alſo contrary to its policy:

The diſtinction and ſubordination of ranks, by which the peace, good order, and ſafety of this iſland, have hitherto, in a great meaſure, been preſerved, will be deſtroyed by the adoption of this plan:

The inhabitants of this colony conſiſt of four claſſes; whites, free people of colour having ſpecial privileges granted by private acts, free people of colour not poſſeſſing ſuch privileges, and ſlaves: Hitherto all theſe claſſes, when employed in the public ſervice, have, as far as it has been practicable, been kept ſeparate: We have, in the militia, diſtinct companies, compoſed of whites, of browns, and of blacks; ſlaves are only employed as pioneers, or as party-men: The regiment of colour, under the command of brigadier-general Whitelocke, is to be formed, as it appears to your committee, on a footing of equality, and on a ſyſtem contrary to this practice:

Manumiſſions have heretofore in general been granted to ſlaves, as rewards for faithful ſervices; but, to grant freedom indiſcriminately to ſlaves, for the ſole purpoſe of enliſting them as ſoldiers, would open to their view a new and dangerous ſcene of ambition, would leſſen the value of ſuch rewards granted for good conduct, and would lead to conſequences highly prejudicial:

That the committee, having thus ſtated that the meaſure is contrary to the policy of the iſland, now beg leave to offer their opinion reſpecting its tendency and ill effects:

All

All free people of colour are required by law to be enrolled in the militia; and this deſcription of men compoſes a very conſiderable part of our natural ſtrength and protection; to draw them from that ſervice, for the purpoſe of embodying them as regulars, would afford no additional ſtrength, while at the ſame time a very conſiderable expence would be incurred for their ſubſiſtence; and, as this regiment may be ordered to ſerve in other parts of the Weſt-Indies, in ſuch event the force of this iſland will be conſiderably diminiſhed:

The free people of colour, whilſt they remain enrolled in the militia, preſerve the ideas of colonial ſubordination, under which they have been brought up, and are actuated by a ſenſe of common intereſt; whereas, if they ſhould be embodied as regulars, they would entertain notions of equality, and acquire habits pernicious to the welfare of the country:

Extenſive tracts in the interior parts of this iſland remaining unſettled, and in which there are many faſtneſſes of very difficult approach, the committee are of opinion, that great danger will ariſe from deſerters; who, after being diſciplined, will repair, with their arms, to ſuch faſtneſſes; where, being joined by ill diſpoſed fugitive ſlaves, they will become enemies of a moſt dangerous deſcription:

That the committee have to regret, that his majeſty's confidential ſervants ſhould find, that the keeping up a force competent for the defence of this iſland, by recruits from Europe, is difficult and uncertain; but, however great our danger may be, and the committee acknowledge it to be imminent, they are of opinion, that the aſſembly of Jamaica ought to refuſe to concur in the meaſure propoſed:

That the committee beg leave to ſtate, that they are fully ſenſible of the great advantages which this country has derived from his lordſhip's exertions and adminiſtration; but, at the ſame time, they think it neceſſary to declare, that the deliberations of the houſe of aſſembly can be influenced by no other motive, than by a ſenſe of their duty to their king and country:

And that the committee obſerve, with great ſatisfaction, the readineſs expreſſed by his majeſty's confidential ſervants, to make exertions in behalf of this important colony; but lament infinitely, that it ſhould remain, at this time, in ſo defenceleſs a ſtate.

Reſolved, *nem. con.* That the houſe do agree to the report.

A petition of the freeholders and other inhabitants of the town of Falmouth, was preſented to the houſe, and read, ſetting forth,

"That the petitioners are of opinion, that the fort erected for the defence of the town and harbour of Falmouth, now known by the name of Fort-Balcarres, is inadequate for its protection, and ineligible by ſituation:

"That the removal of ſaid fort would be of great utility to the town of Falmouth; and, in ſupport of ſuch opinion, the petitioners offer the following reaſons:

"Firſt, if an attempt ſhould be made by an enemy, to enter the channel leading into the harbour of Falmouth, the guns at Fort-Balcarres, repreſented in certain ſchroeter's plan of the town, by the letter A, cannot be oppoſed to the enemy, nor enfilade the channel, without damage to our ſhipping, which is fully elucidated by ſaid plan; this inconvenience will be obviated by the new fort, propoſed to be erected on the point of land repreſented by the letter B, in ſaid plan:

" In moderate weather, an enemy may bring to, or anchor, without the harbour, to the eaſtward of ſaid channel, as at G, and batter the ſhips in the harbour, without bringing a ſingle gun to bear on the enemy from Fort-Balcarres, as our ſhipping would intercept the ſhot; in like manner an enemy may lay to, or anchor, without the harbour, to leeward of the channel, as at F, and cannonade both town and ſhipping, without being incommoded by the guns from Fort-Balcarres, as the buildings on Trelawny wharf would intercept the ſhot, and effectually ſcreen the enemy; thoſe inconveniencies will be obviated by the new fort, propoſed on the point of land repreſented by the letter B, in ſaid plan:

" Fort-Balcarres, by the increaſe of buildings in the town of Falmouth, is ſituated nearly in the center of ſaid town, and is conſidered as a public nuiſance; is rendered unhealthy by its confined limits, containing no more than 14,300 ſquare feet; whereas the area of the lot of land intended for the new fort, contains 92,800 ſquare feet, particularly diſtinguiſhed as the moſt healthy ſituation in the town, and affording ſufficient room for a fort, barracks, hoſpital, magazine, parade, and every neceſſary appendage for a fort:

" For ſome time paſt, and at the preſent period, the pariſh of Trelawny is at a conſiderable annual expence, in hiring of a magazine and hoſpital for the uſe of the garriſon of Fort-Balcarres, there not being ſufficient ſpace to erect the ſame within the limits of ſaid fort.

" That the proprietor of the land, whereon the new fort is propoſed to be erected hath offered to exchange the ſame for the ground whereon Fort-Balcarres, and the officers houſe, now ſtand, and alſo to give the ſum of 500*l.* towards erecting the new fort and offices; which the petitioners deem an advantageous bargain for the public, if ſuch propoſal is embraced."

Ordered, That the above petition do lie on the table, to be peruſed by the members.

The houſe, according to order, reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole houſe, to enquire into and take further into conſideration the ſtate of the iſland:

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Oſborn took the chair of the committee.

Mr. Speaker reſumed the chair.

Mr. Oſborn, from the committee, reported one reſolution; which he read in his place, and delivered in at the table; where being again read, was agreed unto by the houſe, and is as follows:

That it be recommended to the houſe, to ſend a meſſage to his honour the lieutenant-governor, requeſting that he will be pleaſed to lay before the houſe, the laſt returns of the militia in this iſland:

Then Mr. Oſborn acquainted the houſe, that the committee had directed him to move the houſe for leave to ſit again:

Reſolved, That this houſe will again, on Tueſday morning next, reſolve itſelf into a committee of the whole houſe, to enquire into and and take further into conſideration the ſtate of the iſland.

Ordered,

Ordered, That the following meſſage be ſent to his honour the lieutenant-governor:

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

"We are ordered by the houſe to wait on your honour, and to requeſt that you will be pleaſed to lay before the houſe, the laſt returns of the militia in this iſland."

Ordered, That Mr. Stewart and Mr. Fitch be a committee to wait on his honour with the above meſſage; who returning, reported the delivery thereof, and that his honour was pleaſed to ſay, he would comply with the requeſt of the houſe.

Mr. Speaker acquainted the houſe, he had his honour the lieutenant-governor's leave to adjourn the houſe, from time to time, as they ſhould think proper.

Then the houſe adjourned till Tueſday morning next, nine of the clock.

☞ By virtue of an order of the houſe, I do appoint Alexander Aikman to print theſe Votes, and that no other perſon do preſume to print the ſame.

DON. CAMPBELL, *Speaker.*

Martis, 1° die Auguſti, 1797.

RESOLVED, That a meſſage be ſent to his honour the lieutenant-governor, with a copy of the report made to the houſe, on Friday laſt, from the committee to whom his honour's firſt meſſage of the 26th ultimo, and the papers therewith ſent, were referred:

Ordered, That the following meſſage be ſent to his honour the lieutenant-governor:

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

"We are ordered by the houſe to wait on your honour, and to lay before you a copy of a report, from the committee to whom your honour's firſt meſſage of the 26th ultimo, and the papers therewith ſent, were referred; and to which report the houſe have unanimouſly agreed."

Ordered, That Mr. Shirley and Mr. Taylor be a committee to wait on his honour with the above meſſage; who returning, reported the delivery thereof.

Mr. Redwood, in his place, moved for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the fifth clauſe of an act paſſed in the year 1791, entitled, "An act for the further regulation of the ſervice and execution of proceſs, and the returns thereof, and rendering the duty of jurors more equal; for empowering the ſupreme court of judicature to grant ſpecial juries, and alſo commiſſions for the examination of witneſſes *de bene eſſe*, directed to ſuch perſons as they ſhall think fit; for repealing an act, paſſed in the year of our Lord 1779, entitled, 'An act empowering any one of the judges of the ſupreme court of judicature to take the examination of witneſſes leaving this iſland, in any action brought, or to be brought, for the recovery

recovery of debts actually in ſuit, in the ſame manner as if ſuch examination had been taken and returned under the ſeal of the city of London, purſuant to an act of parliament paſſed in the fifth year of the reign of George the ſecond;' and for empowering the judges of the ſaid ſuprome court of judicature to take the examination of witneſſes leaving the iſland, during the vacation between the ſitting of the ſaid ſupreme court; for granting a daily ſubſiſtence to crown witneſſes confined in gaol for want of ſecurity; and for other purpoſes in the ſaid act mentioned;" and for other purpoſes, which was received, and read the firſt time:

Ordered, That the ſaid bill be read a ſecond time, to-morrow.

Two meſſages from his honour the lieutenant-governor, by his ſecretary, as follows:

Firſt meſſage.

"MR. SPEAKER,

"I am commanded by his honour the lieutenant-governor to inform the houſe, that having received intelligence of an extraordinary influx of foreigners to this iſland, within a ſhort period, his honour earneſtly recommends it to the houſe, to reviſe the ſeveral acts of the legiſlature relative to people of that deſcription, and to make ſuch alterations and amendments, as the houſe may in its wiſdom think neceſſary at the preſent criſis."

Second meſſage.

"MR. SPEAKER,

"I am commanded by his honour the lieutenant-governor to lay before the houſe, in conformity to their meſſage of the 28th ultimo. a general return of the militia of Jamaica, taken in the year 1796, being the laſt general return."

A GENERAL

His honour major-general the EARL of BALCARRES, commander in chief.

MILITIA STAFF.

Col. M'Anuff, adjutant-general
Lieutenant-colonel Farmer, deputy adjutant-general
Colonel George Murray, quartermaster-general
Lieut. col. Robert Shawe, deputy quartermaster-general
Colonel James Lewis, judge-advocate general

	OFFICERS. COMMISSIONED.							STAFF.				Non-commissioned officers privates, &c. WHITES.			MULATTS.			BLACKS.			
	Colonels.	Lieutenant-colonels	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Cornets & enfigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Serjeants.	Trumpets & drums.	Rank and file.	Serjeants.	Drums and fifes.	Rank and file.	Serjeants.	Drums and fifes.	Rank and file.	TOTAL.
CAVALRY.																					
Eaſtern diviſion, or Surrey regiment	1	2	3	12	17	8		1	9	1	9	22	8	320							413
Midland diviſion, or Middleſex regiment	2	2	3	11	20	14		3	13	1	14	24	3	328							438
Weſtern diviſion, or Cornwall regiment	2	3	3	8	17	8		5	5	1	9	18	2	317							408
	5	7	9	31	54	30		9	37	3	32	64	13	965							1259
INFANTRY.																					
SURREY.—*Five regiments*																					
Kingſton, two battalions	1	2	2	15	33	12	1	1	2	2	2	29		360	13		156	10	36	120	797
St. Andrew's	1	1	2	6	12	4		1	1	2	2	9		102	6	2	63	3	6	39	262
Port-Royal	1	1	1	4	6	5		1	2	1	2	7		54	3	4	52	2	4	32	182
St. Thomas in the Eaſt and St. David's	1	2	2	11	23	12	1	1	2	2	14	23	6	252	6	1	79	1		44	483
Portland	1	1	2	4	8	4	1		1	1	2	5	3	75	1	1	30				140
	5	7	9	40	82	37	3	4	8	8	32	73	20	843	29	8	380	16	46	235	1864
MIDDLESEX.—*Five regiments*																					
St. Catherine's, three battalions	3	3	6	17	32	21	1	2	2	2	4	16		248	11	10	292	9	24	142	845
St. Mary's and St. George's, two battalions	2	4	3	16	18	25	2	2	3	2	7	31		447	6	3	92	2	6	37	708
Clarendon	1	1	2	9	22	8	1		2	2	8	12	4	186	2	1	33	4	2	76	376
Vere	1	2	2	6	10	5	1	1	1	1	4	12		92	4	5	35	4	5	35	224
St. Ann's	1	1	1	13	14	8	1	1	2	1	4	10	1	185	8	2	109	2	2	38	404
	8	11	14	61	96	67	6	6	10	8	27	81	5	1156	31	21	561	21	39	328	2557
CORNWALL.—*Five regiments*																					
St. Elizabeth's	1	1	2	11	8	6			1	1	3	18		166	15	17	212				462
Weſtmorland	1	2	2	10	16	19	1	2	1	1	4	19	1	213	8	5	115	2	2	26	341
Hanover	1	2	2	9	17	5	1	1	1		4	16		162	3		38	1		11	276
St. James's	1	1	2	10	22	9		1	1		9	38		384	4		66		15		563
Trelawny	1	2	1	10	19	8	1	1	1	1	5	18	4	336	2	2	40	1		21	474
	5	8	9	50	82	47	3	5	5	3	25	109	5	1261	32	24	471	4	17	58	2116
Total	18	26	32	142	314	181	12	24	60	14	116	327	38	3282	92	53	1412	41	102	621	6536

Note. The artillery companies, mounted grenadiers, &c. are incorporated with the infantry.

Total of cavalry		1259
Number of infantry in Surrey	1864	
Number of infantry in Middlesex	2557	
Number of infantry in Cornwall	2116	
Total of infantry	6537	6537
Total of the militia of Jamaica		7796

Dated this 18th day of March, 1796.

JOHN CLINTON M'ANUFF, *adjutant-general.*

A COMPARATIVE STATE *of the* MILITIA *of* JAMAICA *in* 1792, *and* 1796.

By colonel M'Donald's return, dated the 13th day of January, 1792, the total of the militia of Jamaica, was		8172
By colonel M'Anuff's return, dated the 18th day of March, 1796, the total number is	7796	7796
Deficiency in 1796	376	
	8172	

In both returns the effectives are stated thus:

By colonel M'Donald, the cavalry is stated at		911
By colonel M'Anuff, at	1042	
Additional strength in 1796, in horse		131
	1042	1042

WHITES.

By col. M'Donald, the white infantry in Surrey, is stated at	1427	
Middlesex, at	1430	
Cornwall, at	1579—4436	
By col. M'Anuff, the white infantry in Surrey, is stated at	925	
Middlesex, at	1242	
Cornwall, at	1375—3542	
Decrease in whites	894	
Allow for the additional strength in cavalry	131	
Decrease in white strength	763	

BROWNS.

The brown infantry in Surrey, is stated at	316	
Middlesex, at	631	
Cornwall, at	437—1384	
The brown infantry in Surrey, at	417	
In Middlesex	613	
In Cornwall	527	
	1557	
Increase in browns	173	
	1557	1557

BLACKS.

The black infantry in Surrey, at	174	
Middlesex, at	337	
Cornwall, at	73— 584	
The black infantry in Surrey, at	297	
In Middlesex	368	
In Cornwall	79	
	744	
Increase in blacks		160
	744	744

ABSTRACT *of* EFFECTIVE STRENGTH *of the* MILITIA, *this* 18*th day of March*, 1796.

White cavalry	1042
White infantry	3542
Brown infantry	1557
Black infantry	744
Including artillery and mounted corps	6885

JOHN CLINTON M'ANUFF, *adjutant-general militia.*

Ordered, That the above two meſſages, and return, be referred to the committee of the whole houſe, to enquire into and take further into conſideration the ſtate of the iſland.

A motion being made, that a committee be appointed, to prepare and bring in a bill for eſtabliſhing regulations reſpecting perſons of a certain deſcription, arriving in this iſland or reſident therein, in certain caſes;

Ordered, That Mr. Shirley, Mr. Johnſon, and Mr. Irving, be a committee for that purpoſe.

Then the houſe adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

☞ By virtue of an order of the houſe, I do appoint Alexander Aikman to print theſe Votes, and that no other perſon do preſume to print the ſame.

DON. CAMPBELL, *Speaker.*

Mercurii, 2° die Auguſti, 1797.

THE bill to repeal the fifth clauſe of an act, paſſed in the year 1791, entitled, "An act for the further regulation of the ſervice and execution of proceſs, and the returns thereof, and rendering the duty of jurors more equal; for empowering the ſupreme court of judicature to grant ſpecial juries, and alſo commiſſions for the examination of witneſſes *de bene eſſe*, directed to ſuch perſons as they ſhall think fit; for repealing an act, paſſed in the year of our Lord 1779, entitled, 'An act empowering any one of the judges of the ſupreme court of judicature to take the examination of witneſſes leaving this iſland, in any action brought, or to be brought, for the recovery of debts actually in ſuit, in the ſame manner as if ſuch examination had been taken and returned under the ſeal of the city of London, purſuant to an act of parliament paſſed in the fifth year of the reign of George the ſecond;' and for empowering the judges of the ſaid ſupreme court of judicature to take the examination of witneſſes leaving the iſland, during the vacation between the ſitting of the ſaid ſupreme court; for granting a daily ſubſiſtence to crown witneſſes confined in gaol for want of ſecurity; and for other purpoſes in the ſaid act mentioned;" and for other purpoſes, was read a ſecond time:

Reſolved, That the ſaid bill be committed to a committee of the whole houſe, this day.

Mr. Shirley, according to order, preſented to the houſe, a bill for eſtabliſhing regulations reſpecting perſons of a certain deſcription, arriving in this iſland or reſident therein, in certain caſes; which was received, and read the firſt time:

Ordered, That the ſaid bill be read a ſecond time, this day.

The houſe adjourned for one quarter of an hour:

And being met,

The

The bill for eſtabliſhing regulations reſpecting perſons of a certain deſcription, arriving in this iſland or reſident therein, in certain caſes, was read a ſecond time:

Reſolved, That the ſaid bill be committed to a committee of the whole houſe, to-morrow.

The houſe, according to order, reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole houſe, upon the bill to repeal the fifth clauſe of an act paſſed in the year 1791, entitled, "An act for the further regulation of the ſervice and execution of proceſs, and the returns thereof, and rendering the duty of jurors more equal; for empowering the ſupreme court of judicature to grant ſpecial juries, and alſo commiſſions for the examination of witneſſes *de bene eſſe*, directed to ſuch perſons as they ſhall think fit; for repealing an act, paſſed in the year of our Lord 1779, entitled, 'An act empowering any one of the judges of the ſupreme court of judicature to take the examination of witneſſes leaving this iſland, in any action brought, or to be brought, for the recovery of debts actually in ſuit, in the ſame manner as if ſuch examination had been taken and returned under the ſeal of the city of London, purſuant to an act of parliament paſſed in the fifth year of the reign of George the ſecond;' and for empowering the judges of the ſaid ſupreme court of judicature to take the examination of witneſſes leaving the iſland, during the vacation between the ſitting of the ſaid ſupreme court; for granting a daily ſubſiſtence to crown witneſſes confined in gaol for want of ſecurity; and for other purpoſes in the ſaid act mentioned," and for other purpoſes:

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Redwood took the chair of the committee.

Mr. Speaker reſumed the chair.

Mr. Redwood, from the committee, reported, that they had gone through the bill, without making any amendment thereto:

Ordered, That the ſaid bill be engroſſed.

A motion being made, that the receiver-general do, out of any monies in his hands unappropriated, pay to James Lewis, eſquire, clerk to the houſe, the ſum of 30*l.* for his extraordinary trouble, attendance, and expences, during the preſent ſeſſion; and that this or any future aſſembly will make good the ſame;

Ordered, That the ſame do lie on the table three days, agreeably to the rule of the houſe.

A motion being made, that the receiver-general do, out of any monies in his hands unappropriated, pay to Benjamin Lyon, eſquire, ſergeant at arms attending this houſe, the ſum of 100*l.* for his extraordinary trouble and attendance during the preſent ſeſſion; and that this or any future aſſembly will make good the ſame;

Ordered, That the ſame do lie on the table three days, agreeably to the rule of the houſe.

Reſolved, That a meſſage be ſent to his honour the lieutenant-governor, to inform his honour,

honour, that the town and port of Montego-Bay, and other out-ports, are in great danger from ſundry priſoners of war remaining there, for want of priſons and places of ſafety to keep them in; and requeſting, that his honour will pleaſe to make uſe of the ſpeedieſt means in his power, for removing ſo great a nuiſance.

Then the houſe adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

☞ By virtue of an order of the houſe, I do appoint Alexander Aikman to print theſe Votes, and that no other perſon do preſume to print the ſame.

DON. CAMPBELL, *Speaker.*

Jovis, 3° die Auguſti, 1797.

THE engroſſed bill to repeal the fifth clauſe of an act, paſſed in the year 1791, entitled. "An act for the further regulation of the ſervice and execution of proceſs, and the returns thereof, and rendering the duty of jurors more equal; for empowering the ſupreme court of judicature to grant ſpecial juries, and alſo commiſſions for the examination of witneſſes *de bene eſſe*, directed to ſuch perſons as they ſhall think fit; for repealing an act, paſſed in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-nine, entitled, 'An act empowering any one of the judges of the ſupreme court of judicature to take the examination of witneſſes leaving this iſland, in any action brought, or to be brought, for the recovery of debts actually in ſuit, in the ſame manner as if ſuch examination had been taken and returned under the ſeal of the city of London, purſuant to an act of parliament paſſed in the fifth year of the reign of George the ſecond;' and for empowering the judges of the ſaid ſupreme court of judicature to take the examination of witneſſes leaving the iſland, during the vacation between the ſitting of the ſaid ſupreme court; for granting a daily ſubſiſtence to crown witneſſes confined in gaol for want of ſecurity; and for other purpoſes in the ſaid act mentioned;" and for other purpoſes, was read the third time:

Reſolved, That the ſaid bill do paſs:

Ordered, That Mr. Redwood and Mr. Lyon be a committee to carry the above engroſſed bill to the council, and deſire their concurrence thereto; who returning, reported the delivery thereof.

Ordered, That the following meſſage be ſent to his honour the lieutenant-governor:

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

"We are ordered by the houſe to wait on your honour, and to inform you, that the town and port of Montego-Bay, and other out-ports, are in great danger from ſundry priſoners of war remaining there, for want of priſons and places of ſafety to keep them in; and to requeſt that your honour will be pleaſed to make uſe of the ſpeedieſt means in your power, for removing ſo great a nuiſance."

Ordered, That Mr. Perry and Mr. Stewart be a committee to wait on his honour with the above meſſage; who returning, reported the delivery thereof, and that his honour was pleaſed to ſay, he would comply with the requeſt of the houſe.

Five meſſages from his honour the lieutenant-governor, by his ſecretary, as follows:

Firſt meſſage.

" MR. SPEAKER,

" I am commanded by his honour the lieutenant-governor to lay before the houſe, the copy of a letter from his grace the duke of Portland, dated 6th May, 1797, and alſo its encloſure, being the reſolution of the houſe of commons of Great-Britain, bearing date 6th April, 1797; and his honour recommends the ſubject-matter of thoſe papers to the particular attention and conſideration of the houſe.

[*Circular.*] ' *Whitehall, 6th May,* 1797.

' MY LORD,

' I have received his majeſty's commands, to tranſmit to your lordſhip the encloſed reſolution of the houſe of commons, of the 6th of April laſt, reſpecting the negroes in his majeſty's plantations in the Weſt-Indies; and to ſignify to you his royal pleaſure, that you ſhould take the earlieſt opportunity of communicating it to the council and aſſembly of the iſland of Jamaica, to whoſe particular attention and conſideration, you will recommend the formation of ſuch a ſyſtem of meaſures, as may appear to them beſt ſuited to the attainment of the ſeveral important objects, which are ſpecified in the reſolution: Your lordſhip will not fail to tranſmit to me, from time to time, accounts of the proceedings of the legiſlature of your iſland, in conſequence of this communication; and I deſire you will take care, in your firſt diſpatches to inform me, whether any meaſures have been already taken by the legiſlature of the iſland, which may tend to promote the purpoſes expreſſed by the reſolution of the houſe of commons; and you will alſo be attentive at all times, to avail yourſelf of every opportunity of cultivating and improving the diſpoſition you obſerve in the planters and inhabitants, to promote the humane and beneficent views, which the legiſlature of this kingdom has ſo eminently manifeſted, in the reſolution which is herewith tranſmitted to you.

' I am, MY LORD, your lordſhip's moſt obedient humble ſervant,

(*Signed*) ' PORTLAND.

' *Lieutenant-governor of Jamaica.*'

' *Jovis, 6° die Aprilis,* 1797.

' Reſolved, That an humble addreſs be preſented to his majeſty, requeſting that his majeſty will be graciouſly pleaſed, to give directions to the governors of his majeſty's plantations in the Weſt-Indies, to recommend to the reſpective councils and aſſemblies of the ſaid plantations, to adopt ſuch meaſures as ſhall appear to them beſt calculated to obviate the cauſes, which have hitherto impeded the natural increaſe of the negroes already in the iſlands, gradually to diminiſh the neceſſity of the ſlave-trade, and ultimately to lead to its complete termination; and particularly, with a view to the ſame effect, to employ ſuch means as may conduce to the moral and religious improvement of the negroes, and ſecure to them, throughout all the Britiſh Weſt-India iſlands, the certain, immediate, and active protection of the law; and at the ſame time aſſuring his majeſty, that this houſe will concur in ſuch meaſures, as ſhall appear requiſite to be taken by this houſe, for the attainment of the ſame object."

Second meſſage.

" MR. SPEAKER,

" I am commanded by his honour the lieutenant governor to inform the houſe, that his majeſty has been graciouſly pleaſed to augment the pay of his troops throughout his dominions, and to direct that thoſe who are ſerving in this iſland ſhould be entitled to the additional

additional pay, from the 25th of May laſt incluſive: His honour, conceiving that the houſe will readily adopt this juſt and ſalutary proviſion for the 20th light dragoons, has directed me to lay before the houſe a copy of a letter, which he has received from the ſecretary at war, dated 12th June laſt, with its ſeveral encloſures; and alſo an official return of the number of non-commiſſioned officers and privates of the above regiment, with an eſtimate of the additional expence *per diem*.

'MY LORD, *War-Office, 12th June, 1797.*

'I ſend encloſed herewith ſome printed copies of the orders given by his royal highneſs the duke of York, relative to an addition which his majeſty has been pleaſed to make, to the pay and allowances of each non-commiſſioned officer, trumpeter, drummer, and private man, of the cavalry and infantry ſtationed at home.

'His majeſty has, at the ſame time, been pleaſed to grant the like nett additions to the pay and allowances of the troops ſerving abroad; namely, two pence a-day to the pay and allowance of each trumpeter, drummer, fifer, and private man; two pence halfpenny to the pay of each corporal; and three pence a-day to the pay of each ſerjeant.

'In conſequence of theſe additions, the pay of the troops ſerving in Jamaica, who are found in proviſions without expence to themſelves, is to be iſſued from the 25th May laſt incluſive, agreeably to the rates ſpecified in the encloſed ſtates.

'The pay of the men will however be borne on the eſtabliſhment, at the ſame rates as for the troops at home; and, in ſituations abroad, where they find the whole of their proviſions at their own expence, they will receive their pay at thoſe rates which are mentioned in the printed orders.

'I have the honour to be, MY LORD, your lordſhip's moſt obedient humble ſervant,

(Signed) 'WM. WINDHAM.

'*Major-general earl Balcarres, &c. &c. &c.*'

'*Adjutant-general's office, 25th May, 1797.*

'GENERAL ORDERS *for the* DRAGOON GUARDS, DRAGOONS, *and* FENCIBLE CAVALRY.

'Whereas, over and above the proviſion made for clothing, for Chelſea Hoſpital, for lodging, and for medical aſſiſtance, and likewiſe over and above the allowance of beer and other articles provided in barracks and quarters, and of bread provided at a reduced rate in camp, the private dragoon of the line ſerving at home, heretofore received the pay of eight pence *per* day, which, together with the ſum of three pence farthing *per* day, granted to him by his majeſty's warrant for eſtabliſhing and conſolidating certain other allowances lately given him, amounts to the ſum of eleven pence farthing.

'His majeſty having been graciouſly pleaſed to take the ſame into his conſideration, is pleaſed to direct, that under the following regulations, there ſhall, from the 25th of this preſent month of May, be paid to each private dragoon, in addition to the ſaid ſum of eleven pence farthing, the further ſum of three pence three farthings, making, in the whole, the ſum of fifteen pence daily. Out of this advance of pay, the ſoldier is to defray the extra expence of bread and meat, now paid by the public, which, at preſent, amounts on an average, to the ſum of one penny three farthings; ſo that the nett increaſe of allowance now given to each ſoldier, will be two pence *per diem*.

'With reſpect to the diſburſement of this fifteen pence *per* day, his majeſty has been pleaſed to order that a ſum, not exceeding four ſhillings and ſix pence *per* week, ſhall be applied towards the expence of the ſoldier's meſs (including vegetables, *&c.*), unleſs he himſelf ſhall chuſe to appropriate a further part of his pay to that purpoſe.

'That a ſum not exceeding two ſhillings and ſeven pence halfpenny *per* week, ſhall be retained for neceſſaries, to be accounted for as uſual, monthly.

'That

'That the remainder of his pay, amounting to nineteen-pence farthing *per* week, ſhall be paid to the ſoldier, ſubject to the accuſtomed deduction for waſhing, and articles for cleaning his clothes and appointments.

'And his majeſty, out of his royal bounty, is further pleaſed to order and direct, for the benefit of the ſoldier, that in camp he ſhall receive the ſum of five pence farthing *per* week, being the difference between the allowance, and value of bread and beer in quarters, and the ordinary increaſed ſupply of bread in camp.

'That if meat, of the quality proper to be provided for him, ſhould exceed the price of ſix pence *per* pound, or bread of the houſehold quality, the price of three halfpence *per* pound, ſuch extra price ſhall be allowed by the public, for a quantity not exceeding three quarters of a pound of meat, and one pound of bread, *per* day, *per* man.

'That when any ſoldier ſhall, with the approbation of his commanding officer, provide himſelf with lodging, and with the ſeveral articles to which his billet would entitle him, he ſhall receive the ſame allowance as the publican would have been entitled to, under ſuch billet.

'His majeſty is further pleaſed to order, that the pay and allowances to a trumpeter ſhall be daily, nineteen pence.

'That the pay and allowance to a corporal ſhall be daily, nineteen pence halfpenny.

'That the pay and allowance to a ſerjeant, ſhall be daily, two ſhillings and two pence.

'Field-marſhal the duke of York, is happy to announce the king's gracious intentions towards the whole of his army.

'His royal highneſs reſts aſſured, that theſe new inſtances of the liberality of parliament, and of his majeſty's paternal care, will rivet that affection for their king and country, which has ever been the pride of the Britiſh ſoldier, and that a continuance in ſteady diſcipline and honourable conduct, will merit thoſe gracious favours that have been repeatedly ſhewn them.

'On this occaſion his royal highneſs cannot but add, that however incredible it may appear, that there ſhould exiſt a wretch ſo loſt to honour and humanity, as to league with the enemy, and to aim at the utter ruin of his country, yet there are certainly many deſperate perſons who have perſevered in methodizing treachery and ſedition, and who, under ſpecious and deluſive pretences, taking the advantage of unguarded moments, have endeavoured to ſeduce ſoldiers from their duty, and render them accomplices in their treaſons, the direct object of which is, univerſal confuſion and rapine, and the overthrow of that happy ſyſtem of religion and government, ſecured to us by the blood of our anceſtors, and which, for ſo many ages, has rendered Britain the admiration and envy of the world.

'His royal highneſs is convinced, that the love and attachment of the ſoldier to his king and country, are firm and unſhaken; and that, holding in abhorrence all baſe and ſcandalous attempts to ſhake his loyalty and true affection, every good ſoldier will repel with indignation, the inſtigators of ſuch wickedneſs, and glory in any opportunity of expoſing them to the exemplary juſtice of their inſulted country.

'*By command of field-marſhal his royal highneſs the duke of York,*

'WILLIAM FAWCETT, *adjutant-general.*'

'*A ſtate of the* PAY *of the non-commiſſioned officers and men of a regiment of dragoons, ſerving abroad, from 25th May, 1797, inclusive.*

		s.	*d.*	*Augmented per diem.* *s.*	*d.*
'Serjeant	ſubſiſtence	1	6		
	additional pay	0	3	1	9
'Corporal	ſubſiſtence	1	0		
	additional pay	0	2½	1	2½
'Trumpeter					

		s.	d.	s.	d.
‘ Trumpeter	‘ subſiſtence	1	0	1	2
	‘ additional pay	0	2		
‘ Private man	‘ subſiſtence	0	8	0	10
	‘ additional pay	0	2		

‘ *A* RETURN *of the number of ſerjeants, corporals, trumpeters, and privates, borne on the eſtabliſhment of the* 20TH, *or* JAMAICA, *regiment of* LIGHT DRAGOONS, *3d Auguſt*, 1797.

‘ Number of ſerjeants	18
‘ Ditto of corporals	18
‘ Ditto of trumpeters	6
‘ Ditto of privates	264

AU. GOULD, *A. M. B.*

‘ *Amount of* ADDITIONAL PAY *to be provided for:*

	l.	s.	d.
‘ 18 ſerjeants, at 3*d. per diem*	0	4	6
‘ 18 corporals, at 2½*d. per diem*	0	3	9
‘ 6 trumpeters, at 2*d. per diem*	0	1	0
‘ 264 privates, at 2*d. per diem*	2	4	0
‘ Total ſterling, *per diem*	2	13	3.”

Third meſſage.

“ MR. SPEAKER,

“ I am commanded by his honour the lieutenant-governor to lay before the houſe, the hoſpital accounts of the 20th light dragoons, and 63d regiment, by which it will appear, that theſe regiments have reſpectively incurred a debt upon ſuch account: His honour directs me to ſay, that he is ſorry to inform the houſe, that all the other regiments in the iſland are in a ſimilar ſituation:

“ The ſurgeon of his majeſty's forces has written his honour a letter, in explanation of the cauſes of thoſe debts; which letter, with the ſtatement referred to, his honour directs me to lay before the houſe, earneſtly requeſting their moſt ſerious conſideration of the ſubject.”

Statement of monies received and paid, on account of his majeſty's 20TH, *or* JAMAICA, *regiment of* LIGHT DRAGOONS, *from 24th January, to 21ſt July*, 1797, *inclusive.*

Num. of men in hoſpital monthly.	*Monthly expenditure.*	£.	s.	d.
72	25th January, and 24th February	262	2	0¾
50	25th February, and 24th March	188	7	3½
58	25th March, and 21ſt April	201	5	2
38	22d April, and 19th May	107	3	0¾
34	20th May, and 16th June	86	15	6
58	17th June, and 21ſt July	162	17	3½
		1008	10	4½

For what time.	*Monthly credits.*	£.	s.	d.
February,	72 mens rations, at 8*s.* 9*d. per* week, 1*l.* 15*s. per* month	126	0	0
March,	5 ditto, ditto, ditto	87	10	0
April,	58 ditto, ditto	101	10	0

		£.	s.	d.
May,	38 mens rations, at 8*s.* 9*d. per* week, 1*l.* 15*s. per* month -	66	10	0
June,	34 ditto, ditto - - - -	59	10	0
July,	38 ditto, ditto - - -	66	10	0
Num. of men				
72	Amount of macaronies, 1ſt month - -	24	0	0
50	Ditto, ditto, 2d - - - -	16	13	4
58	Ditto, ditto, 3d - - -	19	6	8
38	Ditto, ditto, 4th - - -	12	13	4
34	Ditto, ditto, 5th - -	11	6	8
38	Ditto, ditto, 6th - -	12	13	4
Strength 6 months. 290 284 294 285 285 287	Average, 287 men for ſix months, at four dollars *per* year, 13*s.* 4*d.* half-yearly - - -	191	6	8
	Hoſpital in debt to 21ſt July -	213	0	4½
1725		1008	10	4½

† G. Anson, *major commanding 20th light dragoons.* †

Dr. 63D REGIMENT *hoſpital, from 25th January to 24th April.*

1797.		£	s	d.
To bill for vegetables, from 25th January to 24th April - -		60	15	6
To ditto beef, from 25th January, 1797, ditto - -		132	13	0
To ditto bread, ditto ditto - - -		215	10	10
To ditto wine, &c. ditto ditto - -		290	4	2
To amount of articles from old account - - -		19	16	5
To caſh paid hoſpital, Spaniſh-Town - -		56	12	9
To ditto ditto, Kingſton - - -		7	11	4¾
To ditto ditto, Stoney-Hill - -		90	7	7¾
To caſh paid ſergeant Ivery, for ſick - - -		8	0	0
		881	11	8

1797.	*Contra,*	*Cr.* £.	s.	d.
By iſland allowance, from 25th January to 24th April, 1797, at 6*s.* 8*d. per* quarter - - -		168	12	1
By allowance for ſick rations to ditto - -		472	7	6
By ſtoppages at 1*s.* 8*d. per* week, from men in hoſpital - -		89	8	2
By balance - - -		151	3	11
		881	11	8

Robert Brereton, *lieutenant-colonel 63d regiment.*

The particulars of the above expenditures will be ſeen, by referring to the accounts accompanying this return; with which is alſo ſent the ſeveral hoſpital diet tables, as a further voucher.

From the number and malignant ſtate of the ſick of the 63d regiment, brought from windward, the hoſpital fund of the regiment has incurred a debt of 98*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* previous to the above period, ſince their arrival in Jamaica, on the former hoſpital eſtabliſhment; which

which accounts will be ſubmitted to the commander in chief, hoping that his lordſhip will be pleaſed to direct them to be laid before the houſe of aſſembly, or order that the regiment may be reimburſed.

ROBERT BRERETON.

MY LORD, *Spaniſh-Town, Auguſt* 1, 1797.

I have the honour to ſubmit to your lordſhip's examination, a ſtatement of the expenditure of hoſpitals in Jamaica, and alſo average ſtatements of his majeſty's military hoſpitals in the Weſt-Indies, and of the hoſpitals in Jamaica, with the intention of explaining the cauſe of the debts of theſe laſt, and in the hope that theſe inconveniencies may be removed.

I have the honour to be, with much reſpect, your lordſhip's obedient humble ſervant,

CHAS. LIND, *ſurgeon to the forces.*

To the right honourable Alexander earl of Balcarres, commander in chief, &c. &c. &c.

No. 1. *Diet for a perſon recovering, on the loweſt eſtimation.*

	s.	d.
A pound of bread (regimental price)	0	6
Half a pound of beef	0	6
A pint of porter	0	7½
Vegetables	0	2
Coffee, ſugar, and rice, and ſugar for ſpruce beer	0	4
Salt, herbs, limes, vinegar, and milk	0	2
Waſhing, wood, candles or oil, and ſoap, to each man's daily ſhare	0	3½
Calculated at 5*d.* a week for linen, and ditto bedding; candles, half a pound *per* night; wood, three bitts *per* day; and ſuppoſing thirty men in hoſpital		
Additional for each man, for ſalary of ſervants and wear of clothes	0	2½
See a compendious ſtatement in No. 3.	2	9½

No. 2. *Expences incurred by a man in the ſame circumſtances, in his majeſty's hoſpital.*

Proviſions, *&c.* as above, but uſually on full diet a pound of beef is allowed, and a bottle of porter, or from two to four gills of wine

Wear of hoſpital clothing, wrapper, ſhirt, trowſers, and night-cap; alſo wear of bedding

Salaries of ſervants for an hoſpital of 100 *men.*

	Sterl.	s.	d.
Steward		3	0
Ward-maſter		1	6
Barber		1	0
A nurſe (at St. Domingo)		2	4½
10 orderly men, at 6*d.*		5	0
	12	10½	or 2*d.* currency to each man

No. 3.

Expenditure as ſtated in the foregoing page.

	s.	d.
Daily	2	9½
Weekly	19	6½
Former eſtabliſhment	18	4
	1	2½ deficient for one man in one week; or, in one year, for one man, 3*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.*

	s.	d.
Income on the former eſtabliſhment	18	4

The

The circumſtance of ſick patients not being able to conſume the quantity marked, of bread and beef, is very little, if at all, in favour of the hoſpital fund, as ſuch, with few exceptions, require wine, fowl, fiſh, cyder, &c.

The deficiency of the preſent reduced allowance, therefore, ſufficiently accounts why the hoſpitals are in debt to the regiments, as will appear by the production of the accounts: The wear of ſtretchers, uſed in military hoſpitals in the Weſt-Indies, is not included in the above ſtatement, the board of works intending to ſupply the hoſpitals in town with them:

The above calculation is, I believe, juſt, as I have taken it on a low computation; it may be neceſſary to obſerve, that every charge in military hoſpitals, both general and regimental, except in Jamaica, is now paid on producing ſufficient vouchers.

CHAS. LIND, *ſurgeon to the forces in Jamaica.*

Spaniſh-Town, Auguſt 1, 1797.

Fourth meſſage.

" MR. SPEAKER,

" I am commanded by his honour the lieutenant-governor to lay before the houſe, a letter which he has received from the duke of Portland, bearing date the 12th June laſt, relative to the maroons at Nova-Scotia, together with the copy of ſir John Wentworth's letter, and the extract of his grace's anſwer therein mentioned: His honour ſome time ago tranſmitted accounts, incidental to this buſineſs, to the commiſſioners of accounts, but is in poſſeſſion of duplicates, which his honour is willing to communicate to the houſe, if the houſe is not already in poſſeſſion of the former.

' MY LORD, *Whitehall, 12th June*, 1797.

' I herewith tranſmit a copy of a letter from ſir John Wentworth to me, on the ſubject of the maroons at Nova-Scotia, and an extract of mine to ſir John Wentworth, in anſwer thereto; which, as your lordſhip is completely maſter of the ſubject, and of the terms upon which the maroons have been received into Nova-Scotia, it is unneceſſary for me to ſay any thing further to your lordſhip, than to recommend to your attention, that neceſſary proviſion ſhould be made by the legiſlature of the iſland, for the temporary ſubſiſtence of the maroons in Nova-Scotia, until ſuch time as they ſhall be enabled to provide for themſelves: This proviſion muſt of courſe diminiſh yearly, and I have no doubt but, through the endeavours of ſir John Wentworth, to keep them conſtantly employed in the cultivation of their reſpective allotments of land, and in other works of induſtry, that a ſhort period will ſuffice, to relieve Jamaica from a principal part of the expence: It is evident that this period would have been ſtill ſhorter, had not the improper notions, and deluſive expectations, ſtated in the enclоſed letter, been held out to the maroons.

' I am, MY LORD, your lordſhip's moſt obedient humble ſervant,

' *The earl of Balcarres, &c. &c. &c.* PORTLAND.'

No. 44.

' MY LORD DUKE, *Halifax, Nova-Scotia, 7th May*, 1797.

' Since I had the honour to write to your grace, No. 41. dated the 21ſt April, 1797, Mr. Quarrell, commiſſary for ſettling the maroons in this province, has communicated to me a letter he has received from earl Balcarres, accompanied by a copy of a reſolution of the houſe of aſſembly of Jamaica, providing for the expence of this meaſure till July next, and limiting the ſubſequent to 10*l.* *per* head, ſterling; that is to ſay, men, women, and children; which will be very inſufficient for the purpoſe: It is my duty humbly to repreſent to your grace, that a larger ſum will be indiſpenſably neceſſary for their aid and ſupport, from July, 1797, to July, 1798, and to entreat your grace's inſtructions thereupon: Mr. Quarrell intends proceeding to England, on his own private affairs, in Auguſt next;

next; he is fully ſenſible, that the ſum propoſed by the houſe of aſſembly in Jamaica is greatly inadequate, nor will it be poſſible for them to remain in this province, without a more ample and longer continued ſupport, which muſt be diſpenſed to their various caſes and wants, with an ability and knowledge derived from experience; the want of which will delay the good effects intended, although reſulting from an upright exerciſe of the beſt intentions and zeal in their intereſts: They have not yet overcome the apprehenſion cauſed by the extreme rigorous and unuſually long winter, and backward ſpring, which has only this day given any pleaſant warmth; and both together have been three months longer than has been known ſince the ſettlement of Halifax, in the year 1749: Added to this, they unfortunately got an idea among them, of being embodied as ſoldiers for the Cape of Good Hope and India, with their women and children, *where*, they ſay, *give us arms and ammunition, and put us on ſhore, we will make room for ourſelves*; that is, they will murder and plunder the inhabitants, if they could only live in the woods all the year round: Theſe impreſſions, for the preſent, a little unhinges their good diſpoſitions to labour, but I truſt will ſubſide by degrees: They ſtill attend public worſhip on Sundays, and twice a week they go to the clergyman, for explanations and inſtructions on the ſervice of the preceding Sunday; and the children conſtantly at ſchool, learning to read and write, with decency and diligence: I am, therefore, induced to entreat your grace's favour towards the ſupport of the miſſionary or chaplain, and ſchoolmaſter, which I had the honour to ſolicit in my letter *No.* 41, amounting, in the whole, to 240*l. per annum*, ſterling: The gentlemen have faithfully and uſefully performed their duty, and continue reſident therein, notwithſtanding the apprehenſions naturally excited by ſuch a people. I am, *&c.*

'*His grace the duke of Portland.* J. WENTWORTH.'

'*Extract of a letter from the duke of Portland to ſir John Wentworth, dated Whitehall, 12th June, 1797.*

'I have attentively conſidered the ſeveral circumſtances you have ſtated, relative to the maroons, in *No.* 41 and 44, and can eaſily conceive, that the ſingular length and ſeverity of the late winter, joined to the deluſive hopes very improperly held out to them, of ſerving as a corps at the Cape of Good Hope, inſtead of preparing them for a mode of life ſo different in all its functions from that to which they have been accuſtomed, muſt have made an impreſſion on their minds, extremely unfavourable to the plan laid down for their becoming gradually domeſticated in the ſettlement allotted to them. The firſt thing, therefore, to be done, is to ſet them right in regard to the ſtrange and irregular notions which have been inſinuated amongſt them, of ſerving at the Cape, and diſtinctly and unequivocally to explain to them the conduct they muſt purſue, and the duties they are on their parts to perform, within the colony, to render his majeſty's great benevolence to them effectual to the ends and purpoſes for which it is intended: With reſpect to the expence which may be incurred on their account, until ſuch time as they are able to provide for themſelves (which, of courſe, you will endeavour to effect in the leaſt poſſible ſpace of time), the amount of it muſt be defrayed by the iſland of Jamaica, conformably to the intentions originally expreſſed by its legiſlature, at the time the Maroons were ſent to Nova-Scotia: Should the commiſſary, therefore, who is now reſident within your province, for the purpoſe of defraying thoſe expences, and attending to the management of the maroons, be withdrawn, you are to take eſpecial care that, previous to his departure, a proper arrangement be made for defraying the expences of the maroons, as no part of the charge on their account can poſſibly be borne by this country: I will apply to the biſhop of London, for ſuch an allowance, on account of the maroons, as you ſuggeſt, out of the fund deſtined for the civilization of negroes, if ſuch a fund exiſts; but every other expence which has been, or may be, incurred by the ſettlement of the maroons in the province, will of courſe be to be defrayed by the iſland of Jamaica.'

[*Triplicate.*] ‘*Halifax, June 10th*, 1797.

‘My lord,

‘I am preparing to deliver up to ſir John Wentworth, on the 22d of the enſuing month, my charge of the maroons, agreeably to the reſolutions of the houſe of aſſembly, tranſmitted to me by your lordſhip as inſtructions; which, I have the happineſs to ſay, he receives without reluctance: It is neceſſary I add, that in concluding this buſineſs, I find ſir John Wentworth wiſhes every expence, that is poſſible to be incurred within my time, ſhould be brought forward, in order to leave him totally clear; and, as it is of but little conſequence to the iſland, I mean to admit it, wiſhing to leave him as eaſy and ſatisfied as poſſible, and ſo fully provided, that he may find no difficulty in accompliſhing the buſineſs, on the plan which I conclude he has ſuggeſted, and our iſland has approved; it will be therefore proper, that the receiver-general ſhould give a further credit on the vote, I cannot ſay to what preciſe ſum; but ſuppoſe it ſhould extend to 2500*l.* ſterling more, the whole extent of the laſt. I ſhall uſe no more than is neceſſary, and my accounts will ſhew the neceſſity of, and be the vouchers for; upon a confidence that he does ſo, I ſhall draw for what may be wanting.

‘I have the honour to remain your lordſhip's obedient ſervant,

‘*Right honourable earl Balcarres.* W. D. QUARRELL.”

Fifth meſſage.

“Mr. Speaker,

“I am commanded by his honour the lieutenant-governor to lay before the houſe, an account of the expenditure made in the hoſpital of the 63d regiment, from 6th December, 1796, to 24th January, 1797; and a memorial from Mr. Patrick Mitchell, ſurgeon to that regiment, explanatory of that expenditure; alſo an account of Sylveſter Cotter, for ſupplies to a detachment of the 83d regiment, quartered at Falmouth.”

Dr. 63D REGIMENT *hoſpital, from 6th Dec.* 1796, *to 24th January*, 1797.

	£.	s.	d.
To amount of ſundry bills by doctor Mitchell, from 6th Dec. 1796, to 24th January, 1797, Kingſton	605	1	3½
To amount of ſundry bills by doctor Bayleſs, from 6th December, 1796, to 24th January, 1797, Stoney-Hill	242	18	1¼
To amount of Mr. Buchanan, by order of lieutenant-colonel Brereton, for hoſpital, to 24th January, 1797	94	10	5½
	942	9	10¼

Contra, Cr.

By iſland allowance for men in hoſpital at Up-Park, from 6th December, 1796, to 24th January, 1797	604	7	6
By ditto ditto, Stoney-Hill	219	14	10¼
By credit, for articles in hand	19	16	5
Hoſpital debt, 24th January	98	11	1
	942	9	10¼

MEMORIAL *of* PATRICK MITCHELL, *ſurgeon 63d regiment of foot, unto the right honourable* ALEXANDER *earl of* BALCARRES, *lieutenant-governor and commander in chief, &c. &c. &c.*

Sheweth,

That your petitioner arrived at Port-Royal, Jamaica, with the 63d regiment, accompanied

nied with a very numerous ſick, labouring under malignant fevers, fluxes, and ulcerated legs: That 166 ſick and lame were landed at Up-Park camp, the greater number of whom were ulcerated legs; and, from the diſtreſſed ſituation in which they were, and having been for a long time without being able to procure neceſſaries, to ſupply them in ſuch a low ſituation, it became requiſite to give regular ſupports and comforts to the men; that, by degrees, a debt of 98*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* was accumulated:

That, from the obſtinate and incurable ſtate of many of their ſores, thirteen underwent the operation of amputation; eleven of whom are alive, and embarked for Europe, without ever being troubled with fever, or ſpaſmodic affections, during the cure: Of the two that died, one was from a dyſentery, the other of dropſy:

That, to the liberal, but not waſteful, ſupport and nouriſhment given to the men, and the cool and airy ſituation in which they were placed, may be attributed the great ſucceſs of the different amputations:

That the healthy and effective men of the regiment, were ordered to Stoney-Hill; a few days after their arrival, numbers were taken ill of fevers, *&c.*

That, on account of ſuch a number of men (this being an unprecedented caſe, the arriving of ſuch a number of ſick, in ſuch a melancholy ſituation) the allowance of more than 18*s.* 4*d.* a week was neceſſary to ſupply their wants; on account of the deficiency of which, the debt, *viz.* 98*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* is accumulated:

That your petitioner, having gone on in as frugal a plan, as the nature and circumſtances of men, placed in ſuch a melancholy ſituation, would admit, begs your lordſhip would be pleaſed to lay this memorial before the honourable the houſe of aſſembly, that the ſaid debt may be taken into conſideration, and liquidated:

And for which your memorialiſt will ever be bound to pray.

PATRICK MITCHELL, *ſurgeon 63d regiment.*

THE ISLAND OF JAMAICA, *Falmouth.*

To SYLVESTER COTTER, *Dr.*

To ſupplying a detachment of his majeſty's 83d regiment, quartered here, with wood and water, from the 15th September, 1796, to the 27th February, 1797, being 165 days.

	£.	s.	d.
To two horſes, a cart, and puncheon, wear and tear, carrying water, 20*s.*	165	0	0
To two negroes attending ditto, 5*s.* - -	41	5	0
To two ditto, cutting and ſplitting wood, 5*s.* - -	41	5	0
To one horſe and cart, wear and tear, carrying wood, 10*s.* - -	82	10	0
To one negro attending ditto, 2*s.* 6*d.* - - -	20	12	6
	350	12	6

I do certify, that Sylveſter Cotter did ſupply the detachment of the 83d regiment, quartered at Fort-Balcarres, with wood and water.

WILLIAM GODLEY, *lieutenant-colonel 83d regiment.*
JOHN GAYNER,
EDW. KNOWLES,
JAS. SCARLETT *jun.*

Ordered, That the above meſſages, and the papers therewith ſent, be referred to the committee of the whole houſe, to enquire into and take further into conſideration the ſtate of the iſland:

Then the houſe reſolved itſelf into ſuch committee:

Mr.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Oſborn took the chair of the committee.

Mr. Speaker reſumed the chair.

Mr. Oſborn, from the committee, reported five reſolutions; which he read in his place, and delivered in at the table; where the firſt reſolution being again read, was agreed unto by the houſe, and is as follows:

1. That it be recommended to the houſe, to appoint a committee to prepare an anſwer to his honour the lieutenant-governor's firſt meſſage of this day:

Ordered, That Mr. Shirley, Mr. Cuthbert, and Mr. Oſborn, be a committee for that purpoſe.

The ſecond reſolution being again read, is as follows:

2. That it be recommended to the houſe, to ſend a meſſage to his honour the lieutenant-governor, to inform him, that the houſe will, next ſeſſion, provide for the additional pay and ſubſiſtence to the 20th regiment of light dragoons, from the 25th May laſt incluſive, agreeably to the new regulation in Great-Britain:

A motion being made, that the report be amended, by inſerting the following words;

" Although contrary to the terms on which that regiment was originally received:"

A debate thereon ariſing; and the queſtion being put,

It paſſed in the negative.

And another motion being made, that the houſe do diſagree to the report:

The houſe divided:

The ayes went forth:

Ayes, 6—Mr. Taylor, Mr. Chriſtie, Mr. Stewart, Mr. P. Fuller, Mr. Oſborn, and Mr. Fitch:

Noes, 23—Mr. Shirley, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Jaques, Mr. Reid, Mr. Irving, Mr. Johnſton, Mr. Barnett, Mr. Cockburn, Mr. Redwood, Mr. Perry, Mr. Bryan, Mr. Henry, Mr. R. Roſs, Mr. Fullerton, Mr. G. Fuller, Mr Lyon, Mr. Cuthbert, Mr. W. Roſs, Mr. Thompſon, Mr. Chief-Juſtice, Mr. Henckell, Mr. Telfer, and Mr. Deans:

So it paſſed in the negative:

Reſolved, That the houſe do agree to the report:

Then the 3d, 4th, and 5th reſolutions being again read, were agreed unto by the houſe, and are as follows:

3. That

3. That it be recommended to the houſe, to ſend a meſſage to his honour the lieutenant-governor, to inform him, that the houſe cannot increaſe the allowance made to the regimental hoſpitals.

4. That it be recommended to the houſe, to ſend a meſſage to his honour the lieutenant-governor, to inform him, that the houſe will, early next ſeſſion, take into conſideration his honour's meſſage of this day, relating to the maroons in Nova-Scotia.

5. That it be recommended to the houſe, to ſend a meſſage to his honour the lieutenant-governor, to inform him, that the houſe cannot, this ſeſſion, enter into the merits of the accounts ſent down to the houſe in his honour's fifth meſſage of this day, the ſaid accounts being of a private nature.

The houſe, according to order, reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole houſe, upon the bill for eſtabliſhing regulations reſpecting perſons of a certain deſcription, arriving in this iſland or reſident therein, in certain caſes:

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Johnſon took the chair of the committee.

Mr. Speaker reſumed the chair.

Mr. Johnſon, from the committee, reported, that they had gone through the bill, and had made ſeveral amendments thereto; which he read in his place, and delivered in at the table, with the bill; where being again ſeverally read, were agreed unto by the houſe:

Ordered, That the ſaid bill, with the amendments, be engroſſed, and that the title be, "An act for enforcing the inſtructions given to all captains or commanding officers of ſhips and veſſels, having letters of marque and repriſals againſt the enemy."

Ordered, That the receiver-general do, out of any monies in his hands unappropriated, pay to Thomas Wills, the ſum of 25*l.* for his ſervices and attendance on the houſe this ſeſſion.

Then the houſe adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

By virtue of an order of the houſe, I do appoint Alexander Aikman to print theſe Votes, and that no other perſon do preſume to print the ſame.

DON. CAMPBELL, *Speaker.*

Veneris, 4° die Auguſti, 1797.

THE engroſſed bill for enforcing the inſtructions given to all captains or commanding officers of ſhips and veſſels, having letters of marque and repriſals againſt the enemy, was read the third time:

Reſolved, That the ſaid bill do paſs:

Ordered, That Mr. Henry and Mr. Johnſon be a committee to carry the above engroſſed bill to the council, and deſire their concurrence thereto; who returning, reported the delivery thereof.

Mr. Shirley, from the committee, appointed to prepare an anſwer to his honour the lieutenant-governor's firſt meſſage of yeſterday, reported,

That it is the opinion of the committee, that a meſſage be ſent to his honour the lieutenant-governor, expreſſing our thanks for his lordſhip's early communication of the duke of Portland's diſpatch of the 6th of May, ſignifying his majeſty's commands to tranſmit to his lordſhip the reſolution of the houſe of commons, of the 6th of April laſt, reſpecting the negro ſlaves in his majeſty's plantations in the Weſt-Indies; and ſtating to his lordſhip, that, as the calling together the aſſembly at this time was, upon an extraordinary emergency, at an unuſual ſeaſon of the year, and that, as the aſſembly will probably meet at the uſual time for the diſpatch of public buſineſs, they will then take under their moſt early deliberation, the reſolution of the houſe of commons, which contains matters of the moſt ſerious importance to the colony, with all that particular attention and conſideration which they demand.

Reſolved, That the houſe do agree to the report.

Ordered, That the five following meſſages be ſent to his honour the lieutenant-governor:

Firſt meſſage.

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

"We are ordered by the houſe to wait on your honour, and to inform you, that the houſe will, next ſeſſion, provide for the additional pay and ſubſiſtence to the 20th regiment of light dragoons, from the 25th May laſt inclusive, agreeably to the new regulation in Great Britain"

Second meſſage.

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

"We are ordered by the houſe to wait on your honour, and to inform you, that the houſe cannot increaſe the allowance made to the regimental hoſpitals."

Third meſſage.

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

"We are ordered by the houſe to wait on your honour, and to inform you, that the houſe will, early next ſeſſion, take into conſideration your honour's meſſage of yeſterday, relating to the maroons in Nova-Scotia."

Fourth meſſage.

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

"We are ordered by the houſe to wait on your honour, and to inform you, that the houſe

houſe cannot, this ſeſſion, enter into the merits of the accounts ſent down to the houſe in your honour's fifth meſſage of yeſterday, the ſaid accounts being of a private nature."

Fifth meſſage.

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

"We are ordered by the houſe to wait on your honour, to expreſs their thanks for your early communication of the duke of Portland's diſpatch of the 6th of May, ſignifying his majeſty's commands to tranſmit to your honour the reſolution of the houſe of commons, of the 6th of April laſt, reſpecting the negro ſlaves in his majeſty's plantations in the Weſt-Indies, and to repreſent to your honour, that, as the calling together the aſſembly at this time was, upon an extraordinary emergency, at an unuſual ſeaſon of the year, and that, as the aſſembly will probably meet at the uſual time for the diſpatch of public buſineſs, they will then take under their moſt early deliberation the reſolution of the houſe of commons, which contains matters of the moſt ſerious importance to the colonies, with all that particular attention and conſideration which they demand."

Ordered, That Mr. Stewart and Mr. Chriſtie be a committee to wait on his honour with the above meſſages; who returning, reported the delivery thereof.

The reſolution moved in the houſe on Wedneſday laſt, that the receiver-general do, out of any monies in his hands unappropriated, pay to James Lewis, eſquire, clerk to the houſe, the ſum of 300*l.* for his extraordinary trouble, attendance, and expences, during the preſent ſeſſion, and that this or any future aſſembly will make good the ſame; having lain three days on the table, agreeably to the rule of the houſe, and being again read, was agreed unto by the houſe.

The reſolution moved in the houſe on Wedneſday laſt, that the receiver-general do, out of any monies in his hands unappropriated, pay to Benjamin Lyon, eſquire, ſergeant at arms attending this houſe, the ſum of 100*l.* for his extraordinary trouble and attendance during the preſent ſeſſion, and that this or any future aſſembly will make good the ſame; having lain three days on the table, agreeably to the rule of the houſe, and being again read, was agreed unto by the houſe.

Ordered, That the ſecretary of this iſland do cauſe the bill entitled, "An act for enforcing the inſtructions given to all captains or commanding officers of ſhips and veſſels, having letters of marque and repriſals againſt the enemy," ſo ſoon as the ſame ſhall have paſſed all the branches of the legiſlature, to be publiſhed in the Royal Gazette, the St. Jago Gazette, and the Cornwall Chronicle, for four weeks.

A meſſage from his honour the lieutenant-governor, in council, by the provoſt-marſhal, commanding, in the king's name, the attendance of the whole houſe, in the council-chamber, immediately:

Whereupon Mr. Speaker, and the whole houſe, went up; when his honour was pleaſed to give his aſſent to the following bills:

"An act to repeal the fifth clauſe of an act, paſſed in the year 1791, entitled, 'An act for the further regulation of the ſervice and execution of proceſs, and the returns thereof, and rendering the duty of jurors more equal; for empowering the ſupreme court of judicature to grant ſpecial juries, and alſo commiſſions for the examination of witneſſes *de bene eſſe*, directed to ſuch perſons as they ſhall think fit; for repealing an act, paſſed in the

year

year of our Lord 1779, entitled, " An act empowering any one of the judges of the ſupreme court of judicature to take the examination of witneſſes leaving this iſland, in any action brought, or to be brought, for the recovery of debts actually in ſuit, in the ſame manner as if ſuch examination had been taken and returned under the ſeal of the city of London, purſuant to an act of parliament paſſed in the fifth year of the reign of George the ſecond;" and for empowering the judges of the ſaid ſupreme court of judicature to take the examination of witneſſes leaving the iſland, during the vacation between the ſitting of the ſaid ſupreme court; for granting a daily ſubſiſtence to crown witneſſes confined in gaol for want of ſecurity; and for other purpoſes in the ſaid act mentioned;' and for other purpoſes:"

" An act for enforcing the inſtructions given to all captains or commanding officers of ſhips and veſſels, having letters of marque and repriſals againſt the enemy."

And then his honour was pleaſed to make the following ſpeech:

" GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL,
" MR. SPEAKER, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE ASSEMBLY,
" I lament extremely that certain military arrangements which were communicated to you, have not obtained your concurrence.

" MR. SPEAKER, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE ASSEMBLY,
" The proviſion which you have made, for the additional pay to the 20th light dragoons, cannot fail of being highly acceptable to his majeſty, and merits my warmeſt thanks.

" GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL,
" MR. SPEAKER, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE ASSEMBLY,
" As the affairs of Europe begin to wear a more cheerful aſpect, it is probable that our ſpirits may ſoon be revived, by the opening proſpect of peace; and I indulge myſelf in the pleaſing hope, that, at our next meeting, I ſhall be able to congratulate you on the attainment of ſo great and deſirable a bleſſing.

" I now, in his majeſty's name, prorogue this general aſſembly, until Tueſday the twelfth day of September next."

END OF THE SECOND SESSION.

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